

BA 595

PARKE MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH

1888

PARKTON

PRIVATE

This frame Victorian style church covered with white composition shingles was built on land donated by a founding member of the town, Mrs. Miranda Harris. Building contractor was Marion Anderson, who copied an existing church on Mount Zion Road, about four miles away. Cornerstone was laid on August 18, 1888, with Masonic ceremonies. The remains of Captain James Calder, first settler in the vicinity of Parkton, and other members of his family, are buried beneath the altar and the old Calder tombstones are framed in the rear outer wall of the church and can be read by visitors. The stained glass windows date from the 1930s. With its square entrance tower, the church is the most visible and best designed landmark in the north end of town.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC PARKE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

18,910 York Road

CITY, TOWN

Parkton

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2nd

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore County

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☒ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Parke Memorial Methodist Church, Inc.

Telephone #: -

STREET & NUMBER

18,908 York Road

CITY, TOWN

Parkton

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21152

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

County Courts Building

Liber #: JWS 169

Folio #: 315

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Maryland Historical Trust

Baltimore County Historic Sites Inventory

MHT NO. BA 595

DATE

On-going since 1964

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR

SURVEY RECORDS

21 State Circle

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Parke Memorial United Methodist Church is a frame structure in Gothic Revival style, now covered with white aluminum siding, presenting a very smart appearance on the rising ground north of Parkton. The church is composed of a gable-roofed nave, its gable end to the road, and a side entrance tower and entrance porch, located at the southeast corner (to the left of the nave), the corner nearest the road.

The nave is three bays wide, with a broad stained-glass lancet window centered in the gable end, flanked by two narrower lancet windows. There is a bracketed bargeboard at the gable peak, decorated with cutout trefoils. There is also a round window above the center lancet window.

The nave is four bays deep, also provided with lancet windows. The rear gable end contains only one round stained glass window. A small hip-roofed apse one bay deep is attached to the rear (west) end of the nave; its windows are small lancet types. The eaves of the nave overhang noticeably and a wood cornice follows the eaves.

The square entrance tower has flush doors set under a rectangular transom with stained glass lights. There are two enclosed levels inside the tower, with lancet windows opening on the east and south. The tower becomes an open belfry at the third level, where there are eight openings in the form of gothic arches. The tower roof is a four-sided spire with triangular louvered vents at its base. A Celtic cross tops the spire.

The porch is eight steps above grade, its deck supported by poured concrete. There are four square porch columns, two of them recessed on either side of the door. Round wooden arches combined with wooden latticework join the columns.

The porch is sheltered by a gable roof with overhanging eaves. Its recessed pediment is decorated with a bargeboard with cutout trefoil forms.

The foundation is stone, about two feet of it exposed along the street facade of the nave. A slim brick chimney rises along the north wall of the nave, about halfway back from the street; it is crooked and secured by metal guys or rods.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1888

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Marion Anderson

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

With more than 3,000 acres in the Parkton vicinity owned by the heirs of the original settler, Captain James Calder, there was a fairly small population in the neighborhood; the one church, built in 1846, was a Presbyterian Church, and it fell into disuse and had already deteriorated when used by Union troops who were assigned to protect the Northern Central Railroad during the Civil War.

One of the Calder heirs was Mrs. Miranda Harris, who owned a seventh of the original tract. Her three daughters settled in Parkton in the 1880s and they found that no church was functioning there at all—and they had been accustomed to go three times each Sunday as residents of Baltimore City. (1) They started a Sunday School in the Presbyterian church building and in 1888, their mother deeded two lots at the north end of town as the site of a church. (2) Mrs. Harris selected the name of the church and also prescribed that it be a Methodist Protestant Church and she reserved the right

to deposit the remains of Captain Calder's family and Mrs. Parke's deceased within the walls of the Church building about to be erected, and the tombstones that stand now as a mark to the aforesaid graves shall be built in the rear of the Church building. (3)

The bodies were gathered into one casket and placed under the altar. The cornerstone was laid with masonic ceremonies on August 18, 1888, by Charity Lodge No. 134 of Parkton. The builder was Marion Anderson, but his plans were merely a copy of the church at Mount Zion near Freeland, located 4.0 miles away to the northwest.

A clipping quoted in the church history states:

It is of frame, built in Gothic style, and is 32 by 50 feet. Its pride is a pretty tower,

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

BA-575

Committee on History, Parke Memorial United Methodist Church
1888-1978 (Parkton, Md., 1978).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 71-1/2 perches

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Original site was Lots 9 and 10 on westside of York Road,
 running through irregularly to Calder Avenue.

N76W 208 feet to Calder Avenue

N40W 71 feet along Calder Avenue

S76E 304 feet to York Road

S14-1/2W 66.6 feet to BEGINNING.

(Map 17, P297)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE NONE

COUNTY NONE

STATE

NONE

COUNTY

NONE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

John W. McGrain, Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Baltimore County Office of Planning & Zoning

DATE

March 28, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

TELEPHONE

494-3495

CITY OR TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created
 by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the
 Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA,
 1974 Supplement.

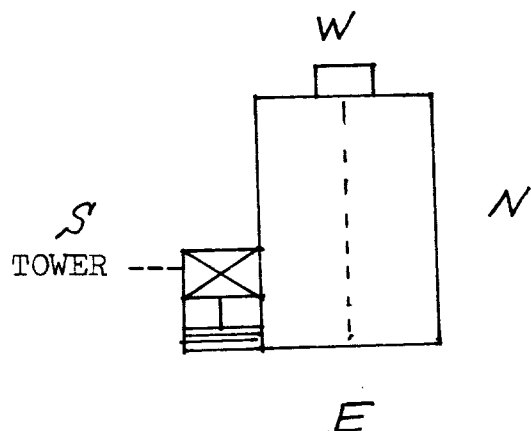
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information
 and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringe-
 ment of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

BA-505

PARKE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 1, ITEM 7, PAGE 2



PARKE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 1, ITEM 8, PAGE 2

67 feet high, and in the interior is a classroom and an auditorium, with a gallery, which will seat 350 persons. The windows are of stained glass. (4)

Dedication took place on January 26, 1889, and there was an all-day meeting at which the pastor raised the outstanding \$900 that prevented dedication of a free and clear church structure. First pastor was the Rev. John Solon Bowers. The debt was wiped out at the evening service at which the Rev. Dr. Lewis, president of Western Maryland College, presided.

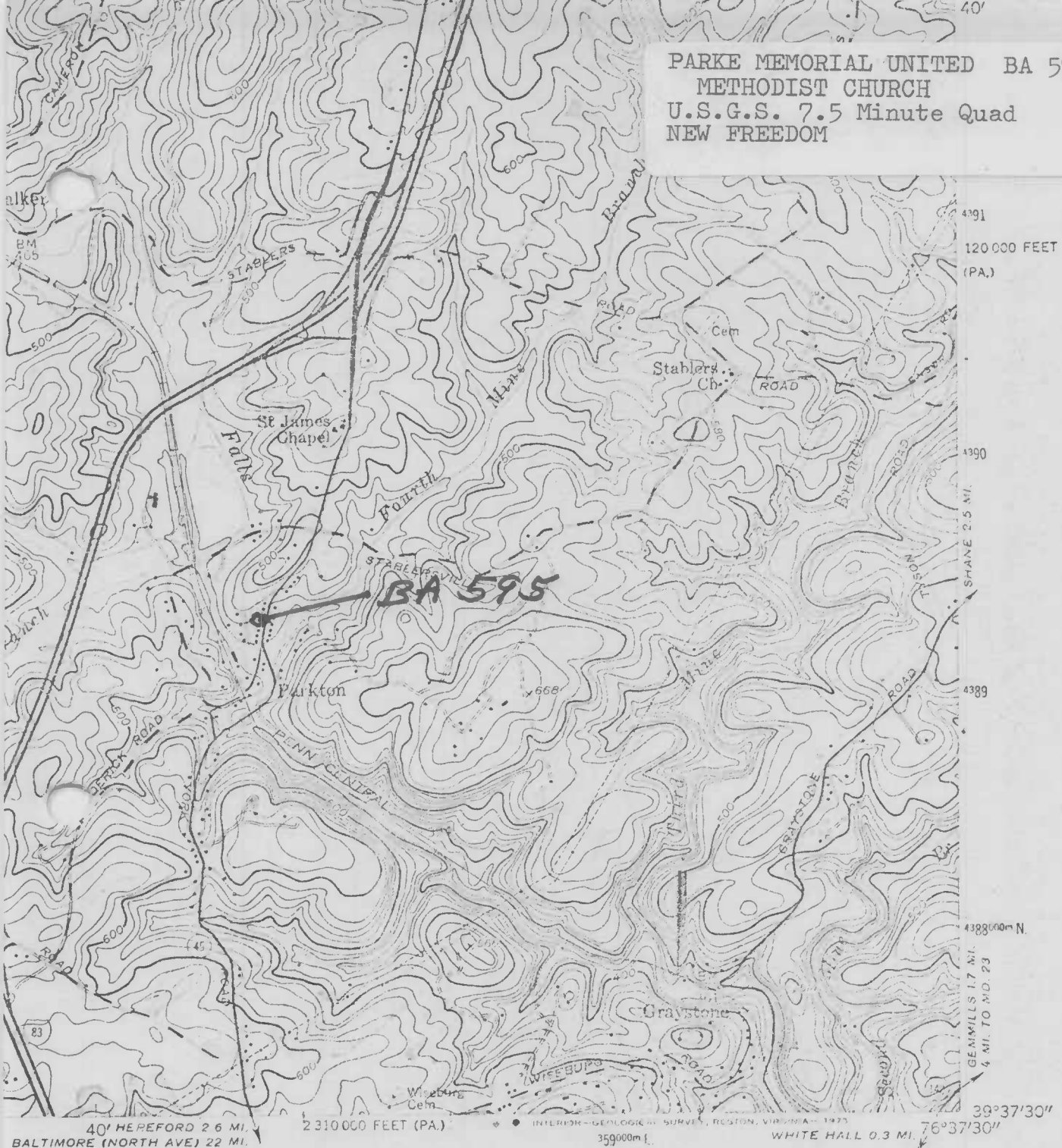
Total cost of the church was \$2,100. There were originally two stoves that had cost \$92.23. Later, a hot air system was installed, and an oil burner in 1941. Lighting began with kerosene lamps, progressed to acetylene gas, and in 1925, electricity was installed.

During the pastorate of the Rev. Moreland Ellis Dearholt (1931-38), the interior was redecorated and a number of stained glass windows installed. An educational building was added in 1960. Another redecoration was carried out in 1970 and in 1973, aluminum siding was added to the structure of both church and educational building.

NOTES:

1. Committee on History, Parke Memorial United Methodist Church 1888-1978 (Parkton, Md. 1978), pp. 2-3.
2. Baltimore County Deeds, JWS 169:315.
3. Committee on History, Parke Memorial, p. 4.
4. Committee on History, Parke Memorial, p. 5.



PARKE MEMORIAL UNITED BA 595
METHODIST CHURCH
U.S.G.S. 7.5 Minute Quad
NEW FREEDOM

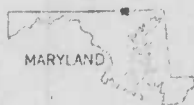


1 MILE

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty ————— Light-duty —————
Medium-duty ————— Unimproved dirt —————

 U. S. Route  State Route



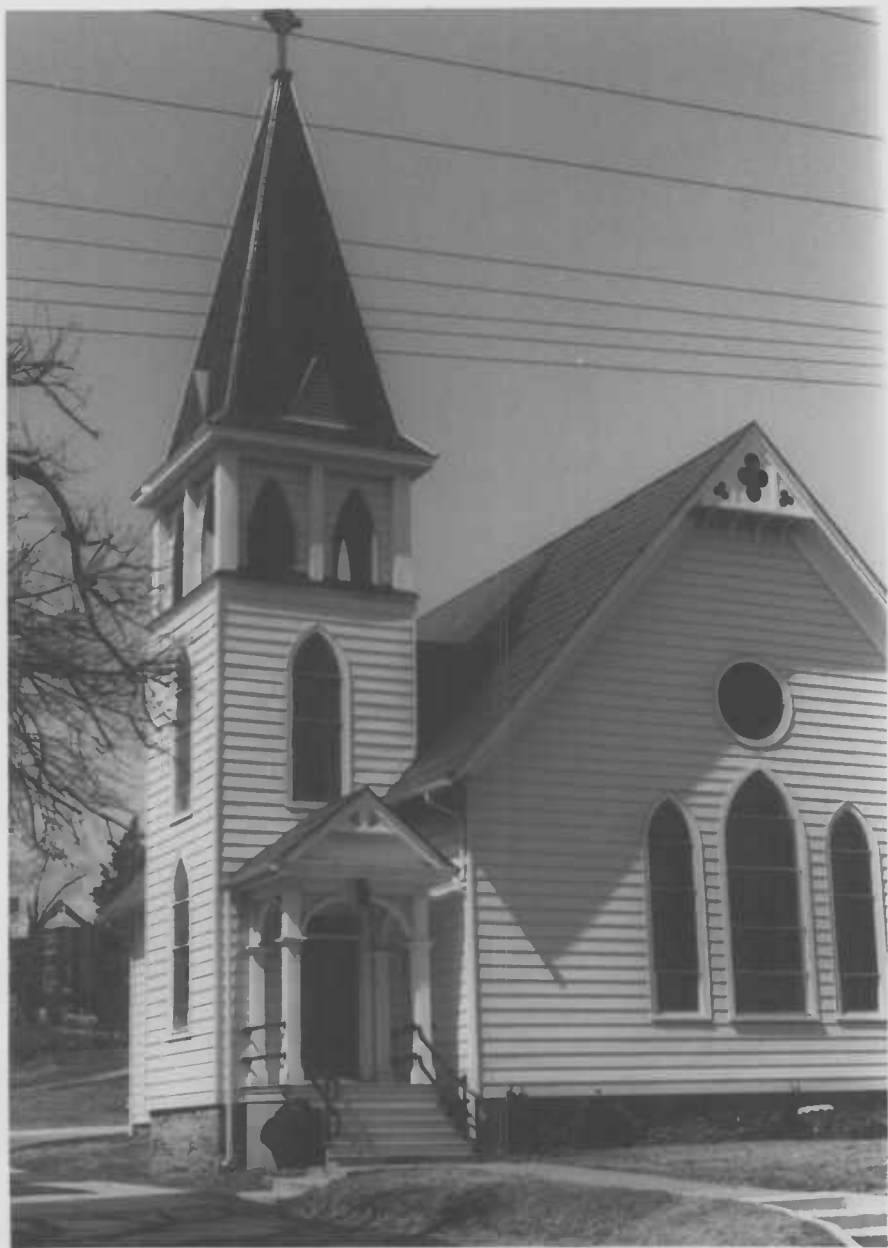
QUADRANGLE LOCATION:

Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey from aerial photographs taken 1974. This information not field checked.

NEW FREEDOM, MD.—PA.

N3937.5—W7637.5/7.5.

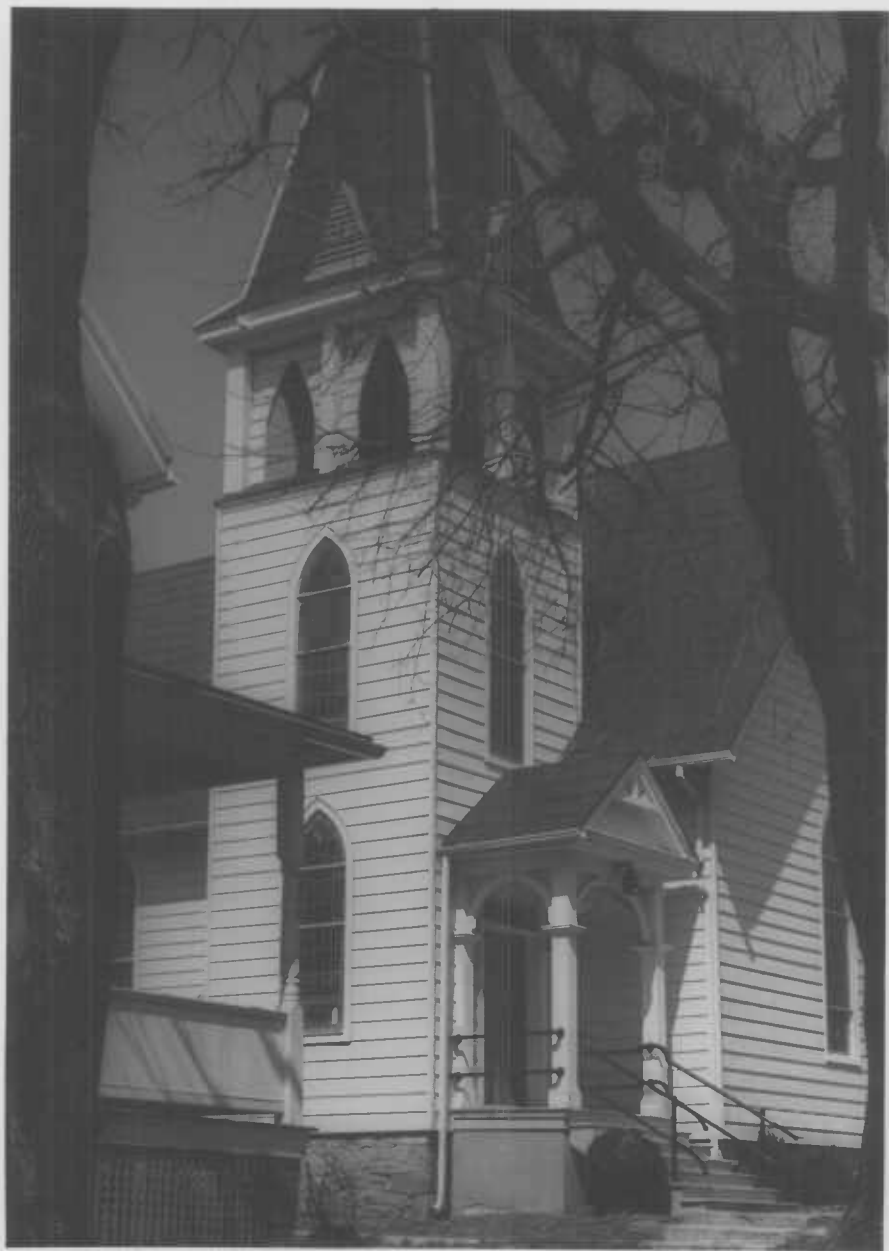
1958
PHOTOREVISED 1974
AMS 5663 II NW SERIES V833



PARKE MEMORIAL CHURCH BA 595
Baltimore County, Maryland
J. McGrain, March 1980
Neg. located at MHT
Tower & SE corner



PARKE MEMORIAL CHURCH BA 595
Baltimore County, Maryland
J. McGrain, March, 1980
Neg. located at MHT
East end of nave



PARKE MEMORIAL CHURCH BA 595
Baltimore County, Maryland
J. McGrain, March 1980
Neg. located at MHT
Tower & SE corner



Parke Memorial
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH SCHOOL, 10:00 A.M.
WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.
BAPTIST

PARKE MEMORIAL CHURCH BA 595
Baltimore County, Maryland
J. McGrain, March 1980
Neg located at MHT
East facade and tower